

# Temecula United Methodist Church

# THE MESSENGER

## April 2025

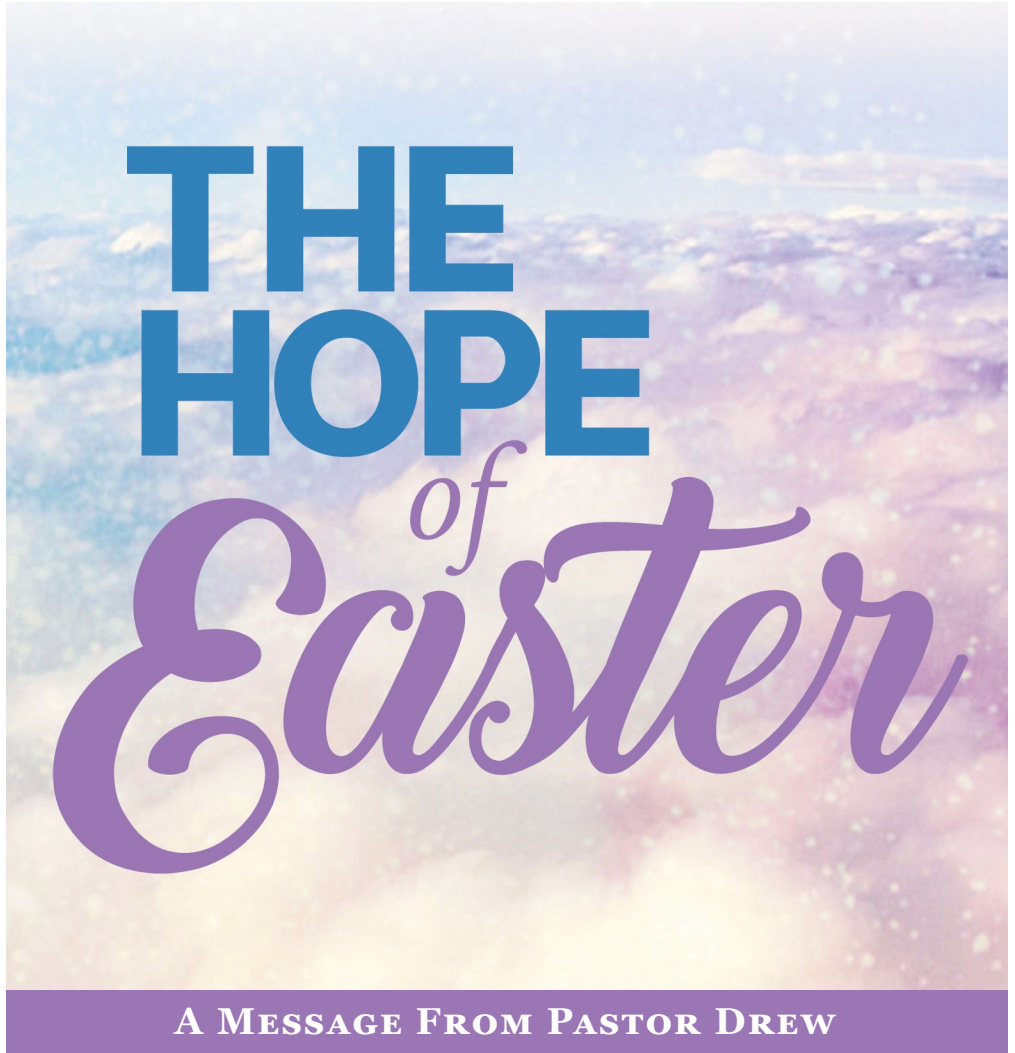
TUMC is an Inclusive, Reconciling and Affirming Congregation. All who seek God are welcome. Join our TUMC family to participate in worship, education, fellowship, ministry and mission, regardless of race, color or ethnicity, age, marital status, gender, sexual identity, expression, physical or mental ability...*anyone who comes to me, I will never drive away.* John 6:37

**This is a place where you will find welcome, support, comfort, and strength for your life.**

- Pastor:** Rev. Drew Davis
- Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Dr. David French
- Admin Secretary:** Adriana Zarate
- Music Director:** Dr. Earl Richards
- Accompanist:** Dr. Corry Bell
- Youth Director:** Gian Adesso
- LGBTQIA+ Coordinator:** Art Salyer

*The Messenger*  
42690 Margarita Road  
Temecula CA 92592

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- Website:** [www.temeculaumc.com](http://www.temeculaumc.com)
- Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/TemeculaUnitedMethodistChurch](https://www.facebook.com/TemeculaUnitedMethodistChurch)
- Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/temeculaunitedmethodistchurch/>
- YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/c/TemeculaUnitedMethodistChurch>
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I would like to begin by reflecting on our March 1, 2025, mission project that focused on moments of advocacy and support for our siblings in the LGBTQIA+ community. There was an unexpected byproduct of this gathering. Siblings within our church who were excited about this opportunity began to share information about the events with other community groups they participate in throughout the Temecula Valley. The result of this word-of-mouth outreach was staggering. Art Salyer and I had the wonderful opportunity to meet with the leadership of The Temecula Valley Pride Center, and this became a collaborative effort between our care groups.

I am frequently asked about specific outreach adventures the church can participate in. My common response is, “Is there a community group already doing that we can team up with?” This collaborative work was a shining example of that concept. Through the guidance and leadership of The Temecula Valley Pride Center, doors were opened, connections were made, and a beautiful display of support was provided to the community of Temecula Valley.

Continued on page 2



On April 5, we will have our next ministry outreach focus. We will be meeting in the TUMC community garden to celebrate our place as caregivers through Environmental Theology. Beginning at 3 PM, we will spend some time in the garden tidying things up, and at the end of our work time, we will transition into our First of the Month worship time, having a time of prayers and hymns in the garden. Please make plans to be a part of this event. It will be a wonderful time of community building, creation care, and worship.

We have also begun our preparation for Easter. It was a blessing to celebrate the acknowledgment of the ashes together in worship. In my preparation for the Ash Wednesday service, I felt it was important to attempt having both a morning (for our friends who do not drive at night) and an evening (for our working friends) gathering for this time of worship. These were so well attended that I will be doing the same for our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday gatherings as well.

As we move into Holy Week this month, we will have an 11 AM and 7 PM Maundy Thursday service, which will include Communion at each service. We will also host an 11 AM and 7 PM Good Friday service. The Good Friday service will be a more reflective time on the crucifixion of Christ and on who assists us in carrying our pains. I look forward to this opportunity, as this will be my first Holy Season with TUMC.

Easter morning will also fall into place in April. Please mark your calendars; we will have a 7 AM sunrise service that will process the emotions of those present at the tomb on that special day. We will also have our traditional service at our regular worship time of 10 AM. As we celebrate the resurrection in our lives, I pray everyone will be blessed and stirred by these offerings.

Please continue to pray, be present together, and worship with us during this time of celebration. May the light of Jesus Christ shine in this time of restorative resurrection.

God is Love,

Rev. M. Andrew Davis (He/Him/His)  
Temecula United Methodist Church  
An Inclusive Affirming Community.

April



**06**      **Scripture:** John 12:1-8  
**Theme:** You Will Not Always Have Me

**Liturgist:** Briana Ropacki  
**Welcome Table:** Sue Bradshaw

**13**      **Palm Sunday (10am)**  
**Scripture:** Mark 11:1-10  
**Theme:** Stop Children What's That Sound

**Liturgist:** Dr. Marlene Oaks  
**Welcome Table:** Ray Mayhugh

**17**      **Maundy Thursday (11am & 7pm)**  
**Scripture:** John 13:21-27  
**Theme:** The Young and The Old

**18**      **Good Friday (11am & 7pm)**  
**Scripture:** Matthew 27:32-44  
**Theme:** I'll Take Your Yoke

**20**      **Easter Sunrise Service (7am)**  
**Scripture:** John 20:1-18  
**Theme:** How Did They See It

**Easter Service (10am)**  
**Scripture:** John 20:11-18  
**Theme:** He Knows My Name  
**Liturgist:** Shirlee Armistead  
**Welcome Table:** Fran Sandipher

**27**      **Scripture:** John 20:24-29  
**Theme:** Don't Give Up Searching  
**Liturgist:** Briana Ropacki  
**Welcome Table:** Anita Accordino

## ALTAR SETUP

Dear friends - If you are looking for a way to serve in our church have you considered setting up our Altar? If you are interested please contact me and I will show you how to fill the candles with oil and change the Altar cloths according to the Season. Taking care of our Altar is a great way to get involved and serve. Contact me at [bert\\_b46@verizon.net](mailto:bert_b46@verizon.net) if you are interested. Thank you - Heather Bjorklund



## EASTER FLOWERS



### Celebrate Easter with a Meaningful Gesture

As Easter approaches, let's take a moment to cherish the special people in our lives. Honor or remember a loved one by purchasing a beautiful Lily. All flowers will be displayed in our worship center.

Attached to the end of this newsletter, you'll find the order form. Please submit your orders no later than **Sunday, April 13th**. Drop off the order form on Sundays and place in the offering plate or mail or drop it off at the office.

## STEPHEN MINISTRY



TUMC's Stephen Ministers are volunteers trained to walk beside people experiencing difficult times. It's confidential and free, and available to anyone regardless of their affiliation with TUMC.

The TUMC Stephen Ministry chapter provides opportunities to talk openly and confidentially to a compassionate, non-judgmental listener. If you'd like to know more information, please contact our Stephen Leader, Dr. Anne DiPardo at [dipardo.anne8@gmail.com](mailto:dipardo.anne8@gmail.com). Our volunteer care givers are ready to meet with you free of charge! Just contact Pastor Drew for a referral at [pastordrewdavis@gmail.com](mailto:pastordrewdavis@gmail.com).

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES  
April 15th**

# April

## Happy Anniversary

Lloyd & Sue Bradshaw...04/03  
Dean & Jan Clark George...04/14

## Happy Birthday

Grace Lloyd...04/01  
Sallie Redfern...04/01  
Brittney De Wall...04/02  
Bethany Monson...04/02  
Kerry Keester-Wellman...04/03  
Shirley Johnson...04/04  
Abbi Otjen...04/04  
Landry Riché...04/06  
John Perry Weaver...04/08  
Kevin Bollinger...04/09  
Kathy Cochrane...04/09  
Ethan Hathorn...04/09  
Samuel Hill...04/09  
Rowan Johnas...04/09  
Jacob Edwards...04/11  
Janet Delaney...04/12  
Matthew Thompson...04/14  
Allison Riché...04/17  
Alyssa Gutierrez...04/20  
Rand Stolp...04/21  
Barbara Gaborko...04/25  
Sydney Hammett...04/25  
Portia Johnas...04/25  
Bill Hillier...04/28  
Bernadine Anderson...04/29  
Gideon Pascasio...04/29  
Anna Turner...04/29



## Tickets now available

For the 2025 UWF  
 Opportunity Quilt  
 "9 Rays of Hope"

104", Rays are paper pieced, floating squares are pieced, all is free motion quilted.

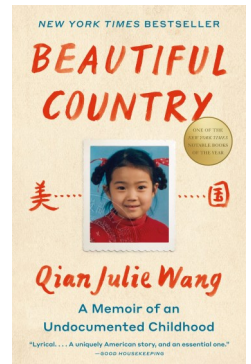
One of a kind, designed and created  
 by Marlene Oaks

Tickets \$10 or 3 for \$20

The winner will be drawn at our  
 Annual Tea, May 17, 2025



Ethel Takeguchi will host the Book Buddies at her home at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, April 1 as we discuss *Beautiful Country*, A Memoir of an Undocumented Childhood. Author Ojan Julie Wang wrote this New York Times bestseller as a testament to the undocumented, immigrant, and Asian American communities, "from the point of view of a young girl who came of age in the shadows, but who never stopped seeing the light."



See Ethel Takeguchi or Sue Bradshaw for more information about our book group. 2025 marks our twentieth-year reading, discussing and socializing with others who share our interest and love of books. On May 6, Sarah and Zoila Hillier will lead a review of *I Shall Not Hate*, by Izzeldin Abuelaish. The full schedule and list of books are available in the church breezeway. Come join us.

## PRAYERS AND SQUARES



### Prayers and Squares

**Offers you the opportunity to have your very own MEMORY PILLOW, With your special photo printed on fabric and made into a quilted 18" pillow-**

And support Prayers & Squares at the same time. Pick up your form in your Sunday bulletin or on the table in the hallway, and turn it in.

Email your photo in jpg format  
 And in a couple of weeks take your very own Memory Pillow home with you.

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED

### LITURGIST, USHERS AND WELCOME TABLE

We are currently seeking additional ushers, liturgists and assistance at the welcome table. Pastor Drew will be conducting a training session on April 5th at 1:30PM in the Worship Center. Sign up sheet is located at the welcome table. Email Pastor Davis at [pastordrewdavis@gmail.com](mailto:pastordrewdavis@gmail.com) or Anita Accordino at [araccordino12@verizon.net](mailto:araccordino12@verizon.net).



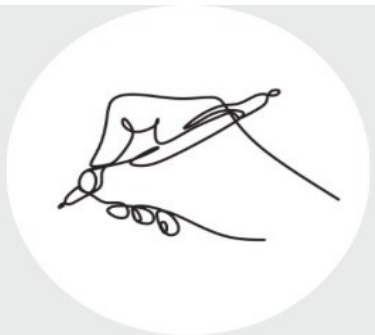
### NOT ANOTHER CHURCH COMMITTEE

Are you the party planner at your job or in your family? Do you love to host people and make sure everyone has a good time? Well now is the chance to take that talent and use it at Church! We are putting together an Event Committee. A group who wants to help create fun community building events and fundraisers here at TUMC. If you have ideas and want to help bring them to life please reach out to Meghann Adesso at [bigstar951@gmail.com](mailto:bigstar951@gmail.com) or 951-526-7730.



## WRITERS CIRCLE (NEW)

Come join the Writers' Circle no matter whether you are an experienced, amateur, or wannabe writer. We will share our thoughts, ideas, and writing with fellow scribes while we support each other in order to motivate and inspire new pieces. Starts April 14th.



## Writers Circle

MONDAYS AT 10:30  
BEGINNING APRIL 14  
CONTACT  
LOIS FOSTER  
FOR DETAILS  
LOISF21@GMAIL.COM

## LGBTQIA+ MINISTRY

Siblings, we will be present in the community, sharing the affirming love that thrives at TUMC. In May, and June, we will be out in our community to meet new siblings and engage in conversations with some truly wonderful people. Please see the flyers below and join us if you can. At the very least, you will have the opportunity to converse with new friends and hear about their journeys, loves, and, more importantly, their concerns. God is Love.

Rev. M. Andrew Davis (He/Him/His)  
Temecula United Methodist Church  
An Inclusive Affirming Community

**3RD ANNUAL RIVERSIDE'S Inland Empire PRIDE**  
**SAT - MAY 10, 2025**  
**WHITE PARK - 12-9PM**

**TOGETHER WE ARE UNLIMITED**

Find us on social @RiversideLGBTQ  
**120+ Vendors**  
**Music · DJ · Drag**  
**Food · Beer Garden**  
**Art · Youth Zone**  
**Workshops**

RSVP for free tickets → [riverside.lgbt/festival](http://riverside.lgbt/festival)

**PRIDE by the beach**

**Save the Date**

**FREE family festival**  
**6.7.25**  
**noon - 6pm**  
**Oceanside CA**

**brave**  
 bold · resilient · authentic · voice · equality

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER OR RESERVE A BOOTH  
[www.pridebythebeach.org](http://www.pridebythebeach.org)

**What is Scrip?**

Purchasing Scrip cards is a simple way of raising money for the church budget. Simply purchase gift cards at face value and the church receives a percentage of the sales. The Scrip box has a variety of cards including gas, stores and restaurants. You may also go to [RaiseRight.com](http://RaiseRight.com) to see a full list of vendors. Cards may be preordered when orders are placed. Since the beginning of January, Scrip sales has raised \$520 for the church.



Cards can be purchased on Sunday mornings after service using cash, check or a credit card. Credit cards will have 4% service fee. Scrip cards are also available to purchase throughout the week during church office hours.

If you have any questions or would like to place an order contact Janet Galbraith at 951-764-3938 and [ingalbraih5@yahoo.com](mailto:ingalbraih5@yahoo.com).

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SCRIP**

**GOLDEN BASKETS FOR THIS MONTH**

**April**

- 06 Christ Ministry Center
- 13 Empowerment Village
- 20 NO GOLDEN BASKET (Easter Offering)
- 27 UMCOR - LA Fires Disaster Relief



**Christ Ministry Center Services Provided by CMC:**

- Good Neighbor Center
- Spiritual Ministries
- Free Clinics
- Brother's Keeper Clothes
- Prison, Detention, Recovery

- The Welcome Home
- Safe Harbor Loft
- AbundantHELP and much more

The above list is just some of the things that Christ Ministry Center does for the community. To learn more visit their website at <https://www.cummc.org/>



**Housing** - A rent-reduced, shared-living stay on our campus for up to 14 moms and their children at a time. Families live three to a house with a combination of private and shared space.

**Education** - During their two-year stay, women are equipped with resources, mentoring, accountability, education, and community connections designed to empower them and their children to sustainably thrive.

**Accountability** - Village residents commit and are held accountable to living agreements that ensure safety and enable the thriving growth of all, including moms, kids, staff, and volunteers. These include responsible and supportive co-living, active participation in weekly classes, progress and follow-through toward set goals, clear and honest communication with the advocacy team, and a commitment to physical and emotional safety.



On January 7, strong Santa Ana winds in Los Angeles caused wildfires to spread rapidly in multiple communities. Thousands of homes and businesses have been destroyed, as well as multiple local United Methodist Churches. Preliminary

assessments of the damage is underway. UMCOR has awarded two solidarity grants to the California-Pacific Annual Conference to undergird their immediate relief efforts. This includes evacuee support like food and essential supplies as well as support for volunteer efforts and other relief activities. Join us in this response. Donate to support this disaster response effort. <https://advance.umcmision.org/p-620-umcor-us-disaster-response-and-recovery.aspx>

**Food Pantry Items for April:**

*Canned Tuna & Canned Chicken*



# VOLUNTEERS & CARE

If you are looking for a way to be more involved in our family or seeking care in a specific area, one of these leaders might be able to assist you. If you are searching for something that is not listed, please reach out to Pastor Drew. You may be the leader he is looking for.

LGTBQIA+ MINISTRY  
ART SALYER  
  
artsalyer@gmail.com


Handbell Choir  
DEBBIE BARBA  
  
muedme@me.com

Stephen Ministry  
DR. ANNE DIPARDO  
  
dipardo.anne8@gmail.com

Hospitality & Worship Care  
ANITA ACCORDINO  
  
araccordino12@verizon.net

Choir & Music  
DR. EARL RICHARDS  
  
earlrichards02@gmail.com


Missions  
SUSAN MCCLELLAN  
  
mcclellan@susanmissions.com

Finance  
MICHAEL ROPACKI  
  
mropacki@tunc.org

Facility Care  
MARK MCCULLOUGH  
  
mrkmmnk951@gmail.com

Pastor & Staff Care  
ADAM HATHORN  
  
adam.hathorn1@gmail.com

Prayers & Squares  
United Women of Faith  
DR. MARLENE OAKS  
  
marleneoaks56@gmail.com

Amplify  
AMY ORTH  
  
amyorth19@gmail.com

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study  
KAREN BENVENUTO  
  
karenjoeb@gmail.com

Sunday school & The Monks  
DAN HENLEY  
  
henley4home@gmail.com

Youth Group  
GIAN ADESSO  
  
gadesso25@gmail.com



PALM SUNDAY

## Pancake Breakfast

April 13th After Church      \$9 for Adults      Pancakes, Eggs & Sausage  
\$5 for Kids

All proceeds benefit TUMC Youth Group

# **HOLY WEEK**

## **PALM SUNDAY**

APRIL 13TH

10:00AM

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

APRIL 17TH

11:00AM AND 7:00PM

## **GOOD FRIDAY**

APRIL 18TH

11:00AM AND 7:00PM

## **EASTER SUNDAY**

APRIL 20TH

7:00AM AND 10:00AM

## **EASTER EGG HUNT**

APRIL 20TH

11:00AM





# Easter Lily Flowers

Deadline for Ordering is April 13th



Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please circle one of the following:**

In Honor            OR            In Memory Of

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(Dedications will be listed in the Church bulletin)

Please enclose your cash or check made out to TUMC and place this order form in the offering plate. You can also drop this off at the Church Office Monday through Friday from 9am-2pm.

## Memory Pillow Form Fundraiser for Prayers & Squares

**To order a memory pillow:**

1. Email Marlene Oaks the photo you want on your pillow in **jpg format---**  
[marleneoaks56@gmail.com](mailto:marleneoaks56@gmail.com)
  2. Indicate what general color you want for the pillow:
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_ neutrals
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_ cool colors    \_\_\_\_\_ warm colors
    - c. \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_
    - d. \_\_\_\_\_ whatever you think works best with the photo
  3. Make a check out to TUMC (Temecula United Methodist Church) with Prayers & Squares in the memo line. In order to cover cost of materials and a little extra for our budget, suggested donation is \$50, or more if you can. Attach to this form and hand it in at the office or give it to Marlene Oaks.
  4. Name: \_\_\_\_\_
  5. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_
  6. Email: \_\_\_\_\_
- The pillow will be 18" square, quilted cover, separate insert filled with fibertill to facilitate washing. The center of the front will be your photo printed on fabric. Allow two to three weeks for delivery, depending on the number of orders ahead of yours.
- Suggestions for photo:** children or grandchildren, wedding pictures, pets, special days, any special memories.